### Financial Report

Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. Acopy of the report has been submitted to the entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date 7/09/08

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For the year ended December 31, 2007

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### FINANCIAL SECTION



### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Honorable Joey Bouziga, Mayor, and the Members of the Town Council Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Golden Meadow, State of Louisiana (the Town) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana, as of December 31, 2007, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund and the Major Special Revenue Funds for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated March 20, 2008 on our consideration of the Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 3 through 10 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana's basic financial statements. The other supplementary information section and statistical information section are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The accompanying financial information listed in the other supplementary section has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The statistical information section has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Bourgeon Bennett, L.L.C.

Certified Public Accountants.

Houma, Louisiana, March 20, 2008.

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

The Town Clerk and the Mayor are responsible for the overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town of Golden Meadow (the Town) for the year ended December 31, 2007. The narrative provided is designed to introduce the financial highlights and offer an overview of our financial statements.

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes and facts known to date. This narrative includes a government-wide financial analysis of revenues, expenses and changes in the net assets. Further detail offers our readers a financial analysis of the Town's funds consisting of the governmental fund types and proprietary funds.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$7,033,057 (net assets). Of this amount, \$2,401,248 (unrestricted net assets) may be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

The Town's total net assets increased by \$644,394 during 2007.

The Town's governmental activities revenue decreased \$321,710 (or 15.92%) primarily due to recognition of grant proceeds in 2006 in connection with the construction of the Seawall project currently underway.

The Town's governmental activities expenses increased \$10,066 (or less than 1 %).

The Town did not have any funds with a deficit fund balance.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

With the implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, a government's presentation of financial statements has been significantly changed. The new statements focus on the government as a whole (government-wide) and the major individual funds. Both perspectives (government-wide and major fund) allow the reader to address relevant questions, broaden a basis for comparison (year to year or government to government) and will enhance the Town's accountability. This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Town's basic financial statements. The Town's annual report consists of five parts: (1) management's discussion and analysis (this section) (2) basic financial statements (3) other supplementary information, and (4) statistical information and (5) various governmental compliance reports and schedules by certified public accountants and management.

The basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements.

#### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements reported in Exhibits A and B are designed to be similar to private-sector business in that all governmental and business-type activities are consolidated into columns which add to a total for the primary government. These statements, combine governmental fund's current financial resources with capital assets and long-term obligations. Also presented in the government-wide financial statements is a total column for the business-type activities of the primary government.

The Statement of Net Assets reported in Exhibit A presents information on all the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities reported in Exhibit B presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in the assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods. For example, uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave result in cash flows for future periods. The focus of the Statement of Activities is on both the gross and net cost of various activities, which are provided by the government's general tax and other revenues. This is intended to summarize information and simplify the user's analysis of cost of various governmental services and/or subsidy to various business-type activities.

Both the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the Town that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities which reflect the Town's basic services include the financial activities of the following: general government (Town administration) public safety (police department), streets and highways (street, road and sidewalk maintenance), drainage and levee (drainage and levee maintenance), culture and recreation (parks/playgrounds and pool) and sanitation (animal control, grass cutting, building demolition and trash collection). The business-type activities of the Town include a gas distribution operation and a sewerage collection and treatment system.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Traditional users of governmental financial statements will find the fund financial statement presentation more familiar. The focus is now on major funds, rather than generic fund types. All the funds of the Town can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and proprietary funds.

Governmental Funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. The governmental major fund presentation in Exhibits C through L is presented on a sources and uses of liquid resources basis. This is the manner in

which the financial budget is typically developed. Unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's current financing requirements. The Town has presented the following major governmental funds: General Fund, Sales Tax Fund, Levee Maintenance Tax Fund, Drainage Maintenance Tax Fund, Street Fund and Seawall Project Fund.

All non-major governmental funds are presented in one column, titled Other Governmental Funds.

**Proprietary Funds** includes enterprise funds on the fund financial statements illustrated in Exhibits M through O. Enterprise funds are used to account for operations financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises. These enterprise funds are presented as major funds and consist of the Gas Distribution System Fund and the Sewerage Fund. The intent is that costs of goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed primarily through user charges.

While the total column on the business-type fund financial statements for enterprise funds (see Exhibit M and N) is the same as the business-type column at the government-wide financial statement, the governmental funds total column requires a reconciliation because of the different measurement focus which is reflected on the page following each statement (see Exhibit D and F). The flow of current financial resources will reflect capital lease proceeds and interfund transfers as other financial sources as well as capital expenditures and debt service principal payments as expenditures. The reconciliation will eliminate these transactions and incorporate the capital assets and long-term obligations into the governmental activities column in the government-wide statements.

### **Capital Assets**

General capital assets include land, improvements to land, easements, buildings, vehicles, machinery and equipment, infrastructure and all other tangible assets that are used in operations and that have initial useful lives greater than one year and exceed the Town's capitalization threshold (see Note 1d, Exhibit P). The Town has recorded all material infrastructure assets acquired since 1984. Prior to the implementation of the new reporting model, no depreciation was charged on general capital assets. Accumulated depreciation was recorded for the first time based on the date of acquisition and the life span of the asset in the 2004 financial statements.

### Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements are a required part of the financial statements and can be found in Exhibit P of this report.

#### Other Information

Other supplementary financial information can be found in Statement 1 of this report. The Statistical Section (Tables 1 through 8) are included for additional information and analysis and do not constitute a part of the audited financial statements.

Also included in the report are special auditor reports on internal control over financial reporting, compliance and other matters, findings and schedules as required by government auditing standards.

### Government-Wide Financial Analysis

The following table reflects the condensed Statement of Net Assets for 2007, with comparative figures from 2006.

# Town of Golden Meadow Condensed Statement of Net Assets December 31, 2007 and 2006

	Gover	ental	Busin	ype						
	Act	iviti	es	Acti	ivitie	es	 T	<b>Fotal</b>		
_	2007		2006	2007		2006	 2007		2006	
Assets:										
Current and other assets	2,338,106	\$	2,238,014	\$ 638,797	\$	515,912	\$ 2,976,903	\$	2,753,926	
Restricted assets	-		-	48,285		44,890	48,285		44,890	
Capital assets	2,798,645		2,757,069	 1,538,494		1,537,645	 4,337,139		4,294,714	
Total assets	5,136,751		4,995,083	2,225,576		2,098,447	 7,362,327		7,093,530	
Liabilities:										
Current liabilities	231,963		599,284	93,579		95,112	325,542		694,396	
Long-term obligations	3,728		10,471	 -		•	 3,728		10,471	
Total liabilities	235,691		609,755	93,579		95,112	 329,270		704,867	
Net Assets:										
Invested in capital assets,										
net of related debt	2,794,917		2,746,598	1,538,494		1,537,645	4,333,411		4,284,243	
Restricted	298,398		274,967	-		-	298,398		274,967	
Unrestricted	1,807,745		1,363,763	593,503		465,690	 2,401,248		1,829,453	
Total net assets	4,901,060	\$	4,385,328	\$ 2,131,997	\$	2,003,335	\$ 7,033,057	\$	6,388,663	

For more detailed information see Exhibit A, Statement of Net Assets.

Approximately 62% of the Town's net assets as of December 31, 2007, reflects the government's investment in capital assets (land, buildings, infrastructure, machinery and equipment) less any related outstanding debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Town government uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Another 4% of the Town's net assets are subject to external restrictions as to their use.

The remaining unrestricted net assets of 34% are available for future use as directed by the Mayor and the Town Council to meet ongoing obligations of the government to citizens and creditors.

The following table provides a summary of the changes in net assets for the year ended December 31, 2007, with comparative figures from 2006:

Town of Golden Meadow Condensed Statement of Changes in Net Assets For the Year Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

		Governi Activi		al	Business-type Activities					Total			
	F	or the year	ar en	ded	For the year ended				For the year ended				
		Decemb	er 3	١,		Dece	mber 3	1,		Dece			
	2007			2006		2007		2006		2007		2006	
Revenues:						• •							
Program Revenues:													
Charges for service		,	\$	441,883	\$	602,285	\$	587,770	\$	1,150,178	\$	1,029,653	
Operating grants and contributions	73	,337		315,865		35,160		4,403		108,497		320,268	
Capital grants and contributions	173	,174		532,529		•				173,174		532,529	
General Revenues:													
Property taxes	147	,421		149,298		-		-		147,421		149,298	
Sales taxes	564	,620		400,987		-		-		564,620		400,987	
Franchise taxes	64	,933		62,267				-		64,933		62,267	
Grants and contributions not restricted												•	
to specific programs	71	,581		63,229		-		-		71,581		63,229	
Other	56	,039		54,650		-		-		56,039		54,650	
Total revenues	1,698	998		2,020,708		637,445		592,173		2,336,443	_	2,612,881	
Expenses:													
General government	268	557		246,144				-		268,557		246,144	
Public safety	318	431		326,256		_				318,431		326,256	
Steets and highways	227	205		224,274		_				227,205		224,274	
Drainage and levee	229	381		223,138				-		229,381		223,138	
Culture and recreation	121	915		137,480		_		-		121,915		137,480	
Sanitation	17	329		15,030		-				17,329		15,030	
Interest on long-term obligations		448		878		-				448		878	
Gas Distribtuion		-		•		419,562		382,477		419,562		382,477	
Sewerage		-		-		89,221		83,559		89,221		83,559	
Total expenses	1,183,	266	_	1,173,200	_	508,783		466,036	_	1,692,049	_	1,639,236	
Change in net assets	515,	732		847,508		128,662		126,137		644,394		973,645	
Net assets, January 1,	4,385,	328		3,537,820		2,003,335		1,877,198		6,388,663		5,415,018	
Net assets, December 31,	\$ 4,901,		•	4,385,328	\$	2,131,997	\$	2,003,335	\$	7,033,057	Ś	6,388,663	

The Town's net assets increased by \$644,394 during the current fiscal year.

Governmental Activities net assets increased \$515,732 in 2007 primarily due to:

- 1. Increases in revenue from fines and forfeitures due to an increase in the fees schedule.
- 2. Increase in sales tax collections during 2007 as the Town continues to grow.

Business-Type Activities net assets increased by \$128,662 in 2007 primarily due to:

1. Gas purchases and sales increased due to increased consumption by the Town's customers.

### Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

The Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds: The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirement. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

The combined fund balances of the Town's governmental funds at December 31, 2007 was \$2,106,143 as compared to \$1,638,730 at December 31, 2006, an increase of \$467,413. The entire fund balance is available for spending at the Town's discretion.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Town. At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved, undesignated fund balance of the General Fund was \$751,965. Compared with fund balance of \$640,858 at the end of 2006, the fund balance increased by \$111,107.

Other major funds had a net increase in the fund balances of \$356,306.

Proprietary Funds: The Town's proprietary funds provide the same type of information found in the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail.

Unrestricted net assets of the Gas Distribution System at December 31, 2007 reflected \$533,176. This fund is used to account for gas distribution services to the Town. This fund is self-supporting from program revenues. This fund encompasses all assets associated with gas distribution. Investment in capital assets at the end of the current fiscal year totaled \$146,514.

The Sewerage Fund of the Town had unrestricted net assets of \$60,327 at December 31, 2007. This fund encompasses all assets associated with sewerage operations of the Town. This fund is self-supporting from program revenues. This fund encompasses all assets associated with sewerage operations. Investment in capital assets at the end of the current fiscal year totaled \$1,391,980.

### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The major differences between the original General Fund budget and the final amended budget was additional funds budgeted from fines and forfeitures due to changes in the rates for various offenses. Appropriations from State increased as funds were received to aid in the repair of the pump.

Appropriations increased due to increases in general governmental costs like insurance and maintenance at town hall. Capital expenditures also increased with the repairs at the pump station.

There was no material difference between actual results and final amended budgeted amounts in the General Fund.

### Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets: The Town's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of December 31, 2007, amounts to \$4,337,139 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, infrastructure, buildings and improvements, furnishings and equipment, streets and roads, drainage systems, park, swimming pool, gas system and sewer system facilities. The total increase in the Town's investment in capital assets (net of depreciation) for the current fiscal year was \$42,425, with less than 1% increases for governmental and business-type activities.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- Repairs to a drainage pump station
- Purchase of 2 generators for the sewer system
- Acquisition of various right-of-ways for the gas distribution system.

### Town of Golden Meadow Capital Assets (Net of Depreciation)

December 31, 2007, and 2006

		Governmental Activities			Business-type Activities				Total			
	2007		2006		2007		2006		2007		2006	
Land	\$ 91,100	\$	91,100	\$	2,500	\$	2,500	\$	93,600	\$	93,600	
Construction in progress	644,596		567,880		-		-		644,596		567,880	
Buildings and improvements	396,119		410,223		-		-		396,119		410,223	
Swimming pool	169,214		176,704		-		-		169,214		176,704	
Autos and trucks	30,115		46,103		17,657		21,269		47,772		67,372	
Sidewalks, streets and drainage	1,258,654		1,251,046		-		-		1,258,654		1,251,046	
Oakridge park	143,478		151,746		-		-		143,478		151,746	
Furniture, equipment and other	65,369		62,257		5,050		9,246		70,419		71,503	
Sewer system	-		-		1,391,261		1,393,717		1,391,261		1,393,717	
Gas distribution system	 -		-		122,026		110,913		122,026		110,913	
Total	\$ 2,798,645	<u>\$</u>	2,757,059	\$	1,538,494	<u>\$</u>	1,537,645	\$	4,337,139	<u>\$</u>	4,294,704	

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Note 8, Exhibit P of this report.

Non-current liabilities: At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town had total outstanding noncurrent liabilities of \$3,728 which represents capital leases. These liabilities will be serviced by general revenues of the Town.

### **Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget and Rates**

- The budget planning began with the assumption that some of our recurring revenues would produce little or no growth. It has been our practice to budget little increases for these proceeds.
- Sales tax collections support the operations of the General Fund. The Town experienced a 40.00% increase in sales tax collections from 2006 to 2007. For prudent planning the Town only budgeted 2008 collections to be 72% of the 2007 projections.
- Ad Valorem taxes are proposed at little growth for 2008.
- Interest earnings on investments have leveled off at historically low interest levels. Thus, for 2008 interest earnings we are not proposing an increase over levels we projected to earn in 2007.
- The Town has budgeted for capital expenditures totaling \$47,407 for the General Fund.

### **Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Golden Meadow's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to Town Clerk, P. O. Box 307, Golden Meadow, La. 70357. General information relating to the Town can be found at the Town's website, www.townofgoldenmeadow.com.

### **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

December 31, 2007

	Primary Government								
	Governmental	Business-type							
ASSETS	Activities	Activities	Total						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,952,971	\$ 527,344	\$ 2,480,315						
Investments	3,895	380	4,275						
Receivables (not)	119,725	108,305	228,030						
Internal balances	(2,768)	2,768	_						
Due from other governments	264,283	- -	264,283						
Restricted assets:									
Cash and cash equivalents	-	48,285	48,285						
Capital assets:									
Non-depreciable	735,696	2,500	738,196						
Depreciable, net:	2,062,949	1,535,994	3,598,943						
Total assets	5,136,751	2,225,576	7,362,327						
LIABILITIES									
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	66,240	45,294	111,534						
Unearned revenue	165,723	-	165,723						
Liabilities payable from restricted assets	•	48,285	48,285						
Non-current liabilities:		-	ŕ						
Due within one year	3,197	•	3,197						
Due in more than one year	531		531						
Total liabilities	235,691	93,579	329,270						
NET ASSETS									
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	2,794,917	1,538,494	4,333,411						
Restricted for:		, ,	, ,						
Streets and highways	186,880	_	186,880						
Drainage and levee	111,518	_	111,518						
Unrestricted	1,807,745	593,503	2,401,248						
Total net assets	\$ 4,901,060	\$ 2,131,997	\$ 7,033,057						

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

#### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

		Program Revenue								
			Operating	Capital Grants and Contributions						
		Charges for	Grants and							
	Expenses	Services	Contributions							
Primary Government:										
Governmental activities:										
General government	\$ 268,557	\$ 170,063	\$ 9,986	\$ -						
Public safety	318,431	362,291	13,686	1,086						
Streets and highways	227,205		43,586	_						
Drainage and levee	229,381	-	5,079	172,088						
Culture and recreation	121,915	15,539	1,000	-						
Sanitation	17,329	, -		-						
Interest on long-term obligations	448			<del></del>						
Total governmental activities	1,183,266	547,893_	73,337	173,174						
Business-type activities:										
Gas distribution	419,562	549,495	160							
Sewerage	89,221	52,790	35,000							
Total business-type activities	508,783	602,285	35,160							
Total primary government	\$ 1,692,049	\$ 1,150,178	\$ 108,497	\$ 173,174						

General revenues:

Taxes:

Property

Sales taxes

Franchise taxes

Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs

Unrestricted investment earnings

Miscellaneous

Total general revenues and transfers

Change in net assets

Net assets - beginning

Net assets - ending

	Net (Expense)	Revenu	e and Changes i	n Net A	ssels			
	overnmental Activities	al Business-type Activities			Total			
S	(88,508)			\$	(88,508)			
	58,632				58,632			
	(183,619)				(183,619)			
	(52,214)				(52,214)			
	(105,376)				(105,376)			
	(17,329)				(17,329)			
	(448)				(448)			
	(388,862)				(388,862)			
		s	130,093		130,093			
			(1,431)		(1,431)			
			128,662		128,662			
	(388,862)		128,662		(260,200)			
	147,421				147,421			
	564,620				564,620			
	64,933				64,933			
	71,581				71,581			
	48,856				48,856			
	7,183				7,183			
	904,594				904,594			
	515,732		128,662		644,394			
	4,385,328		2,003,335		6,388,663			
\$	4,901,060	s	2,131,997	\$	7,033,057			

# BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

December 31, 2007

	o. o., 200					Levee
		General Fund	<del></del>	Sales Tax Fund	M:	Tax Fund
Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	776,840	\$	814,747	\$	101,592
Investments		1,958		1,937		-
Receivables (net, where applicable of						
allowances for uncollectibles):		07.144				21 422
Taxes Accounts		27,144 28,690		-		21,423
Due from other funds		50		184,796		
Due from other governmental units		105,592		54,300		-
2 do Maria de Maria de Maria						<del></del>
Total assets	\$	940,274	\$	1,055,780	\$	123,015
Liabilities  Accounts payable and accrued expenditures Liability for work completed on contracts Due to other funds Unearned revenue	\$	51,782 - 89,747			\$	39,882
Onearned revenue		46,780			-3	39,002
Total liabilities		188,309			_	39,882
Fund Balances						
Unreserved, reported in:						
General Fund		751,965	_			
Special Revenue Funds		-	\$	1,055,780		83,133
Total fund balances		751,965		1,055,780		83,133
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$</u>	940,274	\$	1,055,780	<u>\$</u>	123,015

	Drainage Maintenance Tax Fund		Street Fund		Seawall Project Fund	Other Governmental Fund Capital Project		G	Totai overnmental Funds
\$	46,844 -	\$	189,501	S	23,397	\$	50 -	\$	1,952,971 3,895
	21,423		21,045 15,513		88,878		- - -		91,035 28,690 184,846 264,283
<u>s</u>	68,267	\$	226,059	\$	112,275	\$	50	\$	2,525,720
\$	39,882 39,882	\$	39,179 39,179	\$	14,458 97,817 - 112,275	\$	50	\$	51,782 14,458 187,614 165,723 419,577
<u> </u>	28,385 28,385 68,267		186,880 186,880 226,059	\$	112,275	s	50		751,965 1,354,178 2,106,143 2,525,720

### $\frac{RECONCILIATION\ OF\ THE\ GOVERNMENTAL\ FUNDS\ BALANCE\ SHEET}{TO\ THE\ STATEMENT\ OF\ NET\ ASSETS}$

#### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

December 31, 2007

Fund Balances - Governmental Funds			\$	2,106,143
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:				
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.				
Governmental capital assets	S	5,821,270		
Accumulated depreciation	_	(3,022,625)		2,798,645
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period				
and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds.				
Capital lease liability				(3,728)
Net Assets of Governmental Activities			<u>\$</u>	4,901,060

# $\frac{STATEMENT\ OF\ REVENUES,\ EXPENDITURES\ AND\ CHANGES\ IN\ FUND\ BALANCES}{GOVERNMENTAL\ FUNDS}$

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

		General Fund		Sales Tax Fund	M:	Levee aintenance Tax Fund
Revenues						
Taxes	\$	42,655	\$	564,620	\$	35,111
Fines and forfeitures		362,291		-		•
Intergovernmental		152,274		-		-
Licenses and permits		128,322		-		-
Franchise fees		64,933		-		-
Charges for services		57,280		•		-
Investment income		25,973		22,883		3,936
Miscellaneous		52,248		<del>-</del>		
Total revenues	<del></del>	885,976		587,503		39,047
Expenditures						
Current:						
General government		249,600				
Public safety		303,512				
Streets and highways		186,871				
Sanitation		15,703				
Drainage and levee		178,301				
Culture and recreation		103,076				
Debt service:						
Principal retirement		6,743				
Interest and fiscal charges		448				
Capital outlay		110,615				
Total expenditures	***************************************	1,154,869				
Excess (deficiency) of revenues						
over expenditures	<del></del>	(268,893)		587,503	***	39,047
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Operating transfers in		380,000				
Operating transfers out				(254,628)		(35,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<del></del>	380,000		(254,628)		(35,000)
Net Change in Fund Balances		111,107		332,875		4,047
Fund Balances						
Beginning of year		640,858		722,905		79,086
End of year	\$	751,965	<u>\$</u>	1,055,780	\$	83,133

	Drainage aintenance Tax Fund		Street Fund		Seawall Project Fund	Other Governmental Fund Capital Project	Go	Total vernmental Funds
s	35,111	S	34,544	S			\$	712,041
	-		35,864		72,088			362,291 260,226
	-		12,004		72,000			128,322
	-		-		-			64,933
	-		*		-			57,280
	1,143		7,722		-			61,657
	-							52,248
	36,254		78,130		72,088			1,698,998
								249,600
					_			303,512
					-			186,871
					-			15,703
					-			178,301
					-			103,076
					-			6,743
					-			448
					76,716			187,331
					76,716		<del></del>	1,231,585
	36,254		78,130		(4,628)			467,413
	(35,000)		(60,000)		4,628			384,628 (384,628)
	(22,000)		(00,000)					(501,020)
	(35,000)		(60,000)		4,628			
	1,254		18,130		-			467,413
	27,131		168,750					1,638,730
\$	28,385	\$	186,880	\$		s -	\$	2,106,143

### RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

Net Change in Fund Balance - Total Governmental Funds			\$	467,413
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement activities are different because:				
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.  Capital outlay  Depreciation expense	s	187,331 (145,75\$)		41.576
The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however has any effect on net assets.  Principal payments				6,743
Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities			<u>\$</u>	515,732

### $\frac{\text{STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES}}{\text{BUDGET AND ACTUAL-GENERAL FUND}}$

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

	•	, seconder 31, 2007		Variance with Final Budget
	Budgeted Amounts			Positive
	<u>Original</u>	Final	Actual	(Negative)
Revenues				
Taxes - ad valorem	\$ 42,297	\$ 40,000	\$ 42,655	\$ 2,655
Fines and forfeitures	304,325	342,390	362,291	19,901
Intergovernmental:	55 ,,5=5	2 (2,070		
Federal Government:				
Federal Emergency Management Agency	_	9,986	9,986	_
State of Louisiana:	-	9,000	9,900	•
Video poker	23,000	19,900	17 496	(1,515)
			17,485	
Beer taxes	3,100	6,569	6,492	(77)
Appropriations from State	-	100,000	101,086	1,086
State supplemental pay	14,000	13,396	13,686	290
Lafourche Parish Council:				
Recreation District No. 3	1,000	1,000	1,000	•
Off track betting	2,400	2,450	2,539	89
Lafourche Housing Authority	4,310	4,400	-	(4,400)
Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1	•	5,000	•	(5,000)
Licenses and permits - occupational licenses	99,000	128,272	128,322	50
Pranchise fees	60,400	63,934	64,933	999
Charges for services	55,800	58,461	57,280	(1,(81)
Investment income	19,500	26,175	25,973	(202)
Miscellaneous:	17,300	20,173	20,710	(202)
Donations	1.000	2715	2 216	
	1,000	2,715	2,715	3310
Mineral royalties	62,400	42,746	45,065	2,319
Other	6,050	4,125	4,468	343
Total revenues	698,582	870,619	885,976	15,357
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government	200,437	251,604	249,600	2,004
Public safety	304,558	299,239	303,512	(4,273)
Streets and highways	173,898	194,987	186,871	8,116
Sanitation	10.918	14,636	15,703	(1,067)
Drainage and levee	133,569	178,615	178,301	314
Culture and recreation	92,142			
Debt service:	92,142	96,087	103,076	(6,989)
				(( 0 (0)
Principal retirement	-	-	6,743	(6,743)
Interest and fiscal charges		****	448	(448)
Capital outlay	30,759	131,891_	110,615	21,276
Total expenditures	946,281	1.167,059	1.154,869	12,190
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	(247,699)	(296,440)	(268,893)	27,547
Other Financing Sources				
Operating transfers in	385,000	380,000	380,000	
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 137,301	S 83,560	111,107	\$ 27,547
Fund Balance				
Beginning of year			640,858	
End of year			<u>\$ 751,965</u>	

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL - SALES TAX FUND

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

	Budgetee	i Amounts		Variance with Final Budget Positive	
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)	
Revenues					
Taxes - sales	\$ 250,000	\$ 521,300	\$ 564,620	<b>\$</b> 43,320	
Investment income	10,000	23,400	22,883	(517)	
Total revenues	260,000	544,700	587,503	42,803	
Other Financing Uses					
Operating transfers out	(235,000)	(250,000)	(254,628)	(4,628)	
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 25,000	\$ 294,700	332,875	\$ 38,175	
Fund Balance					
Beginning of year			722,905		
End of year			\$ 1,055,780		

## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL - LEVEE MAINTENANCE TAX FUND

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

	Budgeted	Variance with Final Budget Positive		
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)
Revenues				
Taxes - ad valorem	\$ 35,800	\$ 33,800	\$ 35,111	\$ 1,311
Investment income	2,800	4,160	3,936	(224)
Total revenues	38,600	37,960	39,047	1,087
Other Financing Uses				
Operating transfers out	(35,000)	(35,000)	(35,000)	
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 3,600	\$ 2,960	4,047	\$ 1,087
Fund Balance Beginning of year			79,086	
End of year			\$ 83,133	

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL - DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE TAX FUND

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

		Amounts		Variance with Final Budget Positive
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)
Revenues Taxes - ad valorem	\$ 35,800	\$ 33,800	\$ 35,111	\$ 1,311
Investment income	1,050	1,161	1,143	(18)
Total revenues	36,850	34,961	36,254	1,293
Other Financing Uses Operating transfers out	(35,000)	(35,000)	(35,000)	
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 1,850	(39)	1,254	<u>\$ 1,293</u>
Fund Balance Beginning of year		27,131	27,131	
End of year		\$ 27,092	\$ 28,385	

# $\frac{\text{STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES}}{\text{BUDGET AND ACTUAL - STREET FUND}}$

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

	Budgeted Amounts						Variance with Final Budget Positive	
		Original		Final	_	Actual	(Negative)	
Revenues								
Taxes - ad valorem	S	35,000	S	33,210	S	34,544	\$	1,334
Intergovernmental:		·		•		•		•
State of Louisiana:								
Parish Transportation Fund		17,000		18,800		18,712		(88)
Maintenance Agreement		6,307		6,307		6,653		346
Lafourche Parish Council		9,000		9,500		10,499		999
Investment income		5,800		7,825		7,722		(103)
Total revenues		73,107		75,642		78,130		2,488
Other Financing Uses								
Operating transfers out		(65,000)		(60,000)		(60,000)		<del>-</del>
Net Change in Fund Balance	S	8,107	<u>\$</u>	15,642		18,130	<u>\$</u>	2,488
Fund Balance								
Beginning of year						168,750		
End of year					S	186,880		

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL - SEAWALL PROJECT FUND

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

		Budgeted	Amou	nts			Fin	iance with al Budget Positive
		Original		Final		Actual	<u>()</u>	legative)
Revenues Intergovernmental:								
Federal Government State of Lousiana Lafourche Parish Council	\$	471,153 100,000	\$	471,153 10,000	\$ 	57,429 14,659	\$	(413,724) 4,659
Total revenues		571,153		481,153		72,088		(409,065)
Expenditures Capital outlay		576,153		576,153	<del></del>	76,716		499,437
Deficiency of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$	(5,000)	\$	(95,000)		(4,628)	\$	90,372
Transfers - in Sales tax fund		5,000		95,000		4,628		(90,372)
Net Change in Fund Balance	<u>s</u>		\$	-	<u>\$</u>		\$	-

### STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS PROPRIETARY FUNDS

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

December 31, 2007

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds				
	Gas Distribution System Fund	Sewerage Fund	Total		
ASSETS		•			
Current					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 471,492	\$ 55,852	\$ 527,344		
Investments	380	-	380		
Receivables: Accounts (net of uncollectibles of \$7,003 and					
\$1,527 for Gas Distribution System and					
Sewerage Funds, respectively)	32,364	2,022	34,386		
Unbilled service revenues	69,188	4,731	73,919		
Due from other funds	2,768	,,,,,,	2,768		
2 do 11 dill deller rungs	2,700_		2,700		
Total current assets	576,192	62,605	638,797		
Restricted					
Cash and cash equivalents:					
Customer deposits	48,285		48,285		
Capital Aseets					
Non-depreciable	2,500		2,500		
Depreciable, net	144,014	1,391,980	1,535,994		
Depreciatie, ner		1,371,760	1,000,094		
Total capital assets	146,514	1,391,980	1,538,494		
Total assets	770,991	1,454,585	2,225,576		
LIABILITIES					
Current					
Payable from current assets:					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	43,016	2,278	45,294		
Payable from restricted assets:					
Customers' meter deposits	48,285		48,285		
•		<del></del>	,		
Total current liabilities	91,301	2,278	93,579		
NET ASSETS					
Invested in capital assets	146,514	1,391,980	1,538,494		
Unrestricted	533,176	60,327	593,503		
Total net assets	\$ 679,690	<b>\$ 1,452,307</b>	<u>\$ 2,131,997</u>		

## $\frac{\text{STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS}}{\text{PROPRIETARY FUNDS}}$

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds				
	Gas Distribution System Fund	Sewerage Fund	Total		
Operating Revenues					
Sales and service charges	\$ 536,226	\$ 51,811	\$ 588,037		
Miscellaneous	160		160		
Total operating revenues	536,386	51,81	588,197		
Operating Expenses					
Salaries	81,533	14,136	95,669		
Per diem	75	-	75		
Payroll taxes	6,857	485	7,342		
Retirement	12,699	-	12,699		
Hospitalization insurance	15,454		15,454		
Utilities and telephone	1,558	10,596	12,154		
Repairs and maintenance	6,449	15,841	22,290		
Truck	4,412	1,423	5,835		
Other insurance	5,840	2,997	8,837		
Office	3,903	· •	3,903		
Postage and freight	2,031	-	2,031		
Legal and auditing	10,850		10,850		
Travel	558	3,193	3,751		
Gas purchases	251,967	· <u>-</u>	251,967		
Depreciation	14,320	39,481	53,801		
Miscellaneous	1,056_	1,069	2,125		
Total operating expenses	419,562	89,221	508,783		
Operating income (loss)	116,824	(37,410)	79,414		
Nonoperating Revenues					
Investment income	13,269	979	14,248		
Intergovernmental		35,000	35,000		
Total nonoperating revenues	13,269	35,979	49,248		
Change in Net Assets	130,093	(1,431)	128,662		
Net Assets					
Beginning of year	549,597	1,453,738	2,003,335		
End of year	\$ 679,690	\$ 1,452,307	\$ 2,131,997		

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS PROPRIETARY FUNDS

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

	Business-t	ype Activities-En	terorise Funds
	Gas		
	Distribution		
		Sauraraga	
	System Fund	Sewerage	Total
	rund	Fund	TOTAL
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Cash received from customers and users	<b>\$</b> 515,400	\$ 54,243	\$ 569,643
Cash payments to suppliers	(294,201)	(30,292)	(324,493)
Cash payments to employees for services and benefits	(116,618)	(14,621)	(131,239)
Net cash provided by operating activities	104,581	9,330	113,911
Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities			
Intergovernmenal proceeds		35,000	35,000
Cash Flows from Capital Activities			
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	(19,158)	(35,492)	(54,650)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Proceeds from maturities of investments	97	•	97
Investment income	13,269	979	14,248
Net cash provided by investing activities	13,366	979	14,345
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivialents	98,789	9,817	108,606
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Beginning of year	420,988	46,035_	467,023
End of year	\$ 519,777	\$ 55,852	\$ 575,629
	TAXABLE STATE OF THE STATE OF T		
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided by (used for) operating activities:			
Operating income (loss)	\$ 116,824	\$ (37,410)	\$ 79,414
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss)			
to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation	14,320	39,481	53,801
(Increase) decrease in assets:			
Receivables	(20,985)	2,432	(18,553)
Due from other funds	(1,953)	4,751	2,798
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(5,678)	750	(4,928)
Customer deposits	3,395	•	3,395
Due to other funds	(1,342)	(674)	(2,016)
Total adjustments	(12,243)	46,740	34,497
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 104,581	\$ 9,330	\$ 113,911

### **CONTENTS OF NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

December 31, 2007

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### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

December 31, 2007

#### Note 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana (the Town) complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In the government-wide financial statements and the fund financial statements for the proprietary funds, Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989, have been applied unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case, GASB prevails. For enterprise funds, GASB Statement Nos. 20 and 34 provide the Town the option of electing to apply FASB pronouncements issued after November 30, 1989. The Town has elected not to apply those pronouncements. The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting policies are discussed in subsequent subsections of this Note. The more significant of the government's accounting policies are described below.

### a) Financial Reporting Entity

The Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana was incorporated July 17, 1950, under the provisions of Act 136 (Lawrson Act) of 1898, State of Louisiana. The Town operates under a Mayor-Town Council form of government and provides the following services as authorized by its charter: public safety, streets and highways, drainage, levee maintenance, sanitation, culture-recreation, gas distribution system, sewerage, planning and zoning, and general administrative services.

As the governing authority of township, the Town of Golden Meadow is the financial reporting entity for the Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (the Town of Golden Meadow), (b) organizations for which the Town of Golden Meadow is financially accountable and (c) other organizations for which nature and significance of their relationship with the Town are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

### a) Financial Reporting Entity (continued)

GASB Statement No. 14, <u>The Financial Reporting Entity</u>, established the criterion for determining which component units should be considered part of the Town for financial reporting purposes. The basic criteria are as follows:

- 1. Legal status of the potential component unit including the right to incur its own debt, levy its own taxes and charges, expropriate property in its own name, sue and be sued and the right to buy, sell and lease property in its own name.
- 2. Whether the governing authority appoints a majority of the board members of the potential component unit.
- 3. Fiscal interdependency between the Town and the potential component unit.
- 4. Imposition of will by the Town on the potential component unit.
- 5. Financial benefit/burden relationship between the Town and the potential component unit.

Based on the previous criteria, the Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana has no component units.

### b) Basis of Presentation

The Town's financial statements consist of the government-wide statements on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government and the fund financial statements (individual major funds and combined non-major funds).

### Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements include the statement of net assets and the statement of activities for the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. The government-wide presentation focuses primarily on the sustainability of the Town as an entity and the change in aggregate financial position resulting from the activities of the fiscal period.

Governmental Activities represent programs, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues.

### b) Basis of Presentation (continued)

Business-Type Activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods and services.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Indirect costs are not allocated by function for financial reporting in this statement; however, certain indirect costs have been directly allocated as administrative fees to grants and special fund programs. Program revenue include: (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function or segment and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues. This includes internally dedicated resources such as a restricted property tax.

### Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements are very similar to the traditional government fund statements as presented by governments prior to the issuance of the GASB Statement No. 34. Emphasis is now on the major funds in either the governmental or business-type categories. Non-major funds (by category) or fund type are summarized into a single column.

The daily accounts and operations of the Town continue to be organized on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, equity, revenues, expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based on the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The various funds of the primary government are grouped, into generic fund types and two broad fund categories as follows:

Governmental activities presented as governmental funds in the fund financial statements:

### b) Basis of Presentation (continued)

General Fund – The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Town. The General Fund accounts for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in other funds. The General Fund is always a major fund.

Special Revenue Funds – Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. Special Revenue Funds reported as major funds in the fund financial statements are as follows:

Sales Tax Fund - To account for the receipt and appropriation of proceeds of the Town's 1% sales and use tax. The revenues derived from the tax are to be used for the purposes of constructing, acquiring, extending and/or improving drainage facilities, streets (including sidewalks and street lighting facilities), public buildings, public parks, and fire department and police stations and equipment; public works, buildings, improvements and facilities, title to which improvements shall be in the public, and for the purpose of paying principal and interest on any bonded debt or funded indebtedness of the Town. The tax may be subject to funding bonds by the Town, and it may be used for the purpose of paying any costs of salary and/or administrative costs of any employee of the Town and to pay any or all costs of any services and costs of any legal functions of the Town.

Levee Maintenance Tax Fund - To account for the receipt and appropriation of proceeds from a 5.09 mill ad valorem tax levied on the assessed valuation of taxable property situated within the corporate limits of the Town of Golden Meadow. The tax is used to defray the cost of maintaining levees in the Town of Golden Meadow.

Drainage Maintenance Tax Fund - To account for the receipt and appropriation of proceeds from a 5.09 mill ad valorem tax levied on the assessed valuation of taxable property situated within the corporate limits of the Town of Golden Meadow used to defray the cost of maintaining drainage works in the Town of Golden Meadow.

Street Fund - To account for the receipt and appropriation of proceeds from a 5.0 mill ad valorem tax, levied on the assessed valuation of taxable property situated within the corporate limits of the Town of Golden Meadow used to

### b) Basis of Presentation (Continued)

defray the cost of maintaining streets in the Town of Golden Meadow and receipt of proceeds from Parish Transportation Fund, State Maintenance Agreement and Lafourche Parish Intergovernmental Agreement. The revenues derived are to be used for cost incurred to build, repair and maintain streets, culverts and other drainage facilities and to purchase equipment for road work.

Seawall Project Fund – To account for the receipt of funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security passed through the State of Louisiana, Military Department, Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, State of Louisiana Facility Planning and Control and Lafourche Parish Council for the construction of flood wall improvements.

Capital Projects Fund - accounts for financial resources used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by Proprietary Funds). The Capital Projects Fund is not a major fund.

### Proprietary Funds:

Enterprise Funds – are used to account for operations: (a) that are financed and operated similarly to private business enterprises, where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability or other purposes. Enterprise Funds are presented in the business-type activities column in government-wide financial statements and the major funds section of the basic financial statements, the two Enterprise Funds reported as major funds in the fund financial statements are as follows:

Gas Distribution System Fund - To account for the distribution of natural gas services to residents of the Town. All activities necessary to provide such services are accounted for in this fund, including, but not limited to, administration, operations, maintenance, financing and related debt service, and billing and collection.

Sewerage Fund - To account for sewer services to residents within the Sewer Service District of the Town. All activities necessary to provide such services are accounted for in this fund, including, but not limited to, administration, operations, maintenance, financing and related debt service, and billing and collection.

### b) Basis of Presentation (Continued)

Proprietary Funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. Operating expenses for Enterprise Funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses and depreciation of capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

### c) Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

### Government-Wide Financial Statements:

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized in the year for which they are levied.

### **Fund Financial Statements:**

All governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (revenues and other financing resources) and decreases (expenditures and other uses) in net current assets. Governmental funds are maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Governmental fund revenues resulting from exchange transactions are recognized in the fiscal year in which the exchange takes place and meets the government's availability criteria (susceptible to accrual). Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. Charges for services, fines and forfeitures and most governmental miscellaneous revenues, including investment earnings are recorded as earned since they are measurable and available. The Town's definition of available means expected to be received within sixty days of the end of the fiscal year.

### c) Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus (continued)

Nonexchange transactions, in which the Town receives value without directly giving value in return, included sales tax, property tax, special assessments, grants, entitlements and donations. Ad valorem taxes are recognized as revenue of the period in which levied. The current year property taxes are being are being levied to finance the subsequent year's budgeted expenditures by Town ordinance and legally are not available for funding current year expenditures, accordingly, property taxes levied in 2007 shall be recognized as revenue in 2008. The 2007 tax levy is recorded as unearned revenue in the Town's 2007 financial statements. Sales and use taxes are considered "measurable" when the underlying transaction occurs and meets the availability criteria. Anticipated refunds of such taxes are recorded as fund liabilities and reductions of revenue when they are measurable and valid. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources can be used.

Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable, except for the following: (1) principal and interest on long-term debt are recorded when due and (2) claims and judgments are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund type when paid with expendable financial resources. Allocations of cost such as depreciation and amortization are not recognized in the governmental funds.

All Proprietary Funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. Proprietary funds are maintained on the accrual basis of accounting wherein revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they are earned and become measurable, and expenses are recognized in the period incurred, if measurable. Revenues resulting from transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place.

### d) Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity

### Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash includes amounts in regular and money market accounts.

Investment policies are governed by state statues and bond covenants. Additional details on authorized investments of the Town are disclosed in Note 4.

### d) Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity (continued)

### Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (continued)

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include certificates of deposit, the investment in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP), and securities with maturities of three months or less from date purchased.

Investments are stated at fair value as established by the open market, except for the LAMP investment, which is a local government 2a7-like pool administered a non-profit corporation organized under State of Louisiana law, which is permitted to be carried at amortized cost.

Securities traded in a national or international exchange are valued at the last reported sales price at current exchange rates. Investments that do not have an established market are reported at estimated fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on investments recorded at fair value are included in investment income.

### **Accounts Receivables**

All trade and property tax receivables are shown net of an allowance for uncollectibles. Trade accounts receivable in excess of 90 days comprise the trade accounts receivable allowance for uncollectibles. The allowances represent approximately 7.9% of receivables from business-type activities.

### **Interfund Transactions**

In the financial statements, interfund activity is reported as either loans or transfers. Loans between funds are reported as interfund receivables (due from) and payables (due to) as appropriate. Transfers represent a permanent reallocation of resources between funds. In other words, they are not expected to be paid. For reporting purposes, all interfund transactions between individual governmental funds have been eliminated in the government-wide financial statements. Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and the business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances".

### d) Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity (continued)

### Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land and land improvements, buildings, equipment and infrastructure assets (streets, roads, bridges, canals and sewer and drainage systems) are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an estimated useful life in excess of one year and initial, individual cost of more than \$500 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add value to the asset or materially extend its useful life are not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects at completion of construction. At this point the project costs are moved out of construction-in-progress and capitalized.

Capital Assets of the Town are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Type of Capital Assets	No. of Years
Buildings and building improvements	10 - 40
Christmas fixtures	10
Protection levee	25 - 40
Swimming pool	10 - 40
Autos and trucks	5 – 7
Sidewalks, streets and drainage	7 - 40
Oakridge Park	15 - 40
Office furniture and fixtures	5 – 7
Department equipment	5 ~ 15
DMV building	40
Gas Distribution and Sewer Systems	20 - 50

### d) Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity (continued)

### **Non-Current Liabilities**

The accounting treatment of non-current liabilities depends on whether the assets are used in governmental fund operations or proprietary fund operations and whether they are reported in the government-wide or fund financial statements.

All non-current liabilities to be repaid from governmental resources are reported as liabilities in the government-wide statements. Non-current liabilities consist of capital leases.

Non-current liabilities for governmental funds are not reported liabilities in the fund financial statements. Capital lease proceeds are reported as other financing sources and payment of principle and interest reported as expenditures.

### **Compensated Absences**

GASB Statement No. 16, Accounting for Compensated Absences, requires governments to accrue compensated absences only to the extent it is probable that the employer will compensate employees for benefits through cash payments conditioned on the employees' termination or retirement.

In the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary fund types fund statements, the total compensated absences liability is recorded as an expense and a long-term obligation and allocated on a functional basis. A current liability is recorded for the value of one year's accrual of leave. In accordance with GASB Interpretation No. 6, Recognition and Measurement of Certain Liabilities and Expenditures in Governmental Fund Financial Statements, (issued in March 2000), no compensated absences liability is recorded at December 31, 2007 in the governmental fund-type fund financial statements.

A total of 5 to 10 days annual leave and 10 days sick leave per year may be accumulated by each employee. Employees may not carry over or accumulate annual leave. Any sick leave not used during any calendar year can be carried over and accumulated without limit. Any sick leave accumulated at the time of termination of employment by the Town shall not be paid.

d) Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity (continued)

### **Fund Equity**

Government-wide Statements:

Equity is classified as net assets and displayed in three components:

- a. Invested in capital assets net of related debt Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net assets Consists of net assets with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributions or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net assets All other net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets."

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Town's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

### Fund Financial Statements:

Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance may be further classified as reserved and unreserved, with unreserved further split between designated and undesignated. Reserved means that the fund balance is not available for expenditure because resources have already been expended (but not consumed), or a legal restriction has been placed on certain assets that makes them only available to meet future obligations. Designated fund balances result when management tentatively sets aside or earmarks certain resources to expend in a designated manner. In contrast to reserved fund balances, designated amounts can be changed at the discretion of management.

d) Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity (continued)

### **Accounting Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions. Those estimates affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. They may also affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenses of proprietary funds and the government-wide financial statements during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

### Note 2 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

### **Budgetary Information**

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for all governmental funds except the Capital Projects Fund. The Capital Project Fund presents projects as opposed to annual budgets and are therefore not reported in the accompanying financial report. The Town Council, who approves each project budget, maintains effective controls of costs. Annual appropriated budgets are adopted for the following governmental funds: general and special revenue. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end.

The Town does not employ encumbrance accounting; under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation.

The Town adheres to the following procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- a. Not later than December 16, a proposed operating budget for the year commencing the following January 1 shall be submitted to the Town Council. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
- b. The Town Council conducts public hearings to obtain taxpayer comments.
- c. All actions necessary to adopt and otherwise finalize and implement the budget for an ensuing year are taken prior to the end of the year in progress.
- d. The level of budgetary control is at the fund, department or project level and any

### Note 2 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (Continued)

### **Budgetary Information** (continued)

amendment involving the transfer of monies from one fund, department or project to another or any amendment for amounts exceeding any current expenditure amount budgeted must be approved by the Town Council.

- e. All budgeted amounts, which are not expended, or obligated through contracts, lapse at year end.
- f. Budgets for all governmental fund types are adopted on a basis consistent with GAAP.
- g. The budget was amended one time during the year.

### **Note 3 - PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied each November 1 on the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1 for all real property, merchandise and movable property located in the Town. Assessed values are established by the Lafourche Parish Assessor's Office and the State Tax Commission at percentages of actual value as specified by Louisiana Law. A reevaluation of all property is required to be completed no less than every four years. The last reevaluation was completed for the list of January 1, 2004. Taxes are due and payable December 31 with interest being charged on payments after January 1. Taxes can be paid through the tax sale date, which is the last Wednesday in June. Properties for which the taxes have not been paid are sold for the amount of the taxes. The assessed value, upon which the 2007 levy was based was \$7,835,450.

The 1974 Louisiana Constitution (Article 7 Section 18) provided that land and improvements for residential purposes be assessed at 10% of fair market value; other property and electric cooperative properties, excluding land, are to be assessed at 15%; and public service properties, excluding land, are to be assessed at 25% of fair market value. Fair market value is determined by the elected assessor of the parish on all property subject to taxation except public service properties, which are valued by the Louisiana Tax Commission (LRS 47:1957). The correctness of assessments by the assessor is subject to the review and certification by the Louisiana Tax Commission.

### Note 3 - PROPERTY TAXES (Continued)

The Town has levied property taxes for maintenance of levees, drainage and streets and for general corporate purposes. The various tax rates for the year ended December 31, 2007 were as follows:

Description	Tax Rate <u>Per \$1,000</u>
Levee Maintenance	\$5.09
Drainage Maintenance	5.09
Street Maintenance	5.00
General	5.97

As indicated in Note 1c, property taxes are recorded as revenue by the Town in the year the taxes finance budgeted expenditures. Property taxes, which are paid under protest, are recorded as revenue in the year the taxes are settled.

### Note 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Louisiana state law allows all political subdivisions to invest excess funds in obligations of the United States or other federally insured investments, certificates of deposit of any bank domiciled or having a branch office in the State of Louisiana, guaranteed investment contracts and investment grade (A-1/P-1) commercial paper of domestic corporations.

### **Bank Deposits:**

State Law requires deposits (cash and certificates of deposits) of all political subdivisions to be fully collateralized at all times. Acceptable collateralization includes FDIC insurance and securities purchased and pledged to the political subdivision. Obligations of the United States, the State of Louisiana, and certain political subdivisions are allowed as security for deposits. Obligations furnished as security must be held by the political subdivision, or with an unaffiliated bank, or with a trust company for the account of the political subdivision.

The year end balances of deposits are as follows:

	Bank	Reported
	 Balance	 Amount
Cash	\$ 1,027,643	\$ 1,028,745

### Note 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Council's deposits may not be returned to it. The Town has a written policy for custodial credit risk. As of December 31, 2007, \$731,133 of the Town's bank balance of \$1,027,643 was exposed to custodial credit risk. These deposits were uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent, but not in the Town's name.

At December 31, 2007, cash was not adequately collateralized in accordance with state law by securities held by unaffiliated banks for the account of the Town. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), which promulgates the standards for accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments, considers these securities subject to credit risk. Even though the deposits are considered subject to custodial credit risk under the provisions of GASB Statement No. 40, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the depositor that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

### **Investments:**

State statutes authorize the Town to invest in obligations of the U.S. Treasury, agencies, and instrumentalities; guaranteed investment contracts and investment grade (A-1/P-1) commercial paper of domestic corporations; repurchase agreements; and the Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP).

At December 31, 2007, the Town had the following investments and maturities:

				Inve	stmen	t Matu	rities	(in ye	ars)	
Investment Type		Fair Value		Less Than 1	1-5			6-10		More han 10
Government National Mortage Association Louisiana Asset Management	\$	4,301	\$	~	\$	-	\$	-	\$	4,301
Pool (LAMP)	<u></u>	1,499,079	_	1,499,079						-
Totals	<u>\$</u>	1,503,380	\$	1,499,079	\$		\$	•	\$	4,301

Because LAMP as of December 31, 2007, had a weighted average maturity of 26 days, it was presented as an investment with a maturity of less than one year.

As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from interest rates, The Town's investment policy emphasizes maintaining liquidity to match specific cash flows.

### Note 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

Credit risk is defined as the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Town's investment policy requires the application of the prudent-investor rule. The policy states, investments shall be made with the judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affair, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived. Primary emphasis shall be placed upon the safety of principal secondly to maintain liquidity to meet operating requirements and finally to obtain the most favorable rate of return.

The Town's investment policy limits investments to those discussed earlier in this note. LAMP has a Standard & Poor's Rating of AAAm.

For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Town will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Investments in external investment pools are not exposed to custodial credit risk because of their natural diversification and the diversification required by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

LAMP, a local government investment pool, is administered by LAMP, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, which was formed by an initiative of the State Treasurer in 1993. While LAMP is not required to be a registered investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, its investment policies are similar to those established by Rule 2a7, which governs registered money market funds. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public funds in short-term, high quality investments. The LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest. Accordingly, LAMP investments are restricted to securities issued, guaranteed or backed by the U.S. Treasury, the U.S. Government or one of its agencies, enterprises or instrumentalities, as well as repurchase agreements collateralized by those securities. The dollar weighted average portfolio maturity of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days, and consists of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days. The fair value of investments is determined on a weekly basis to monitor any variances between amortized cost and fair value. For purposes of determining participants' shares, investments are valued at amortized cost. The fair value of participant's position is the same as the value of the pool shares. LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. Investments in LAMP at December 31, 2007 amounted to \$1,499,079.

### Note 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

A reconciliation of deposits and investments as shown on the Statement of Net Assets is as follows:

Cash on hand Reported amount of deposits Reported amount of investments	\$ 750 1,028,745 1,503,380
Total	\$ 2,532,875
Cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents-restricted Investments	\$ 2,480,315 48,285 4,275
	\$ 2,532,875

### Note 5 - RECEIVABLES

An allowance based upon past experience has been established for customers' gas billings and sewerage fees. Uncollectible amounts due for ad valorem taxes and other receivables are recognized as bad debts at the time information becomes available which would indicate the uncollectability of the particular receivable.

### Note 5 – RECEIVABLES (Continued)

Receivable and the applicable allowances for doubtful accounts at December 31, 2007 were as follows:

	 Amount		lowance for acollectibles	I	Net Receivables
Governmental Activities:					
General Fund:					
Property taxes	\$ 27,144			\$	27,144
Accounts	28,690				28,690
Levee Maintenance Tax Fund:					
Property taxes	21,423				21,423
Drainage Maintenance Tax Fund:					
Property taxes	21,423				21,423
Street Fund:					
Property taxes	 21,045				21,045
Total governmental activities	\$ 119,725			<u>\$</u>	119,725
Business-type Activities:					
Gas Distribution System Fund:					
Accounts	\$ 108,555	\$	(7,003)	\$	101,552
Sewerage Fund:	ŕ		, , ,		•
Accounts	8,280		(1,527)		6,753
Total business-type activities	\$ 116,835	<u>\$</u>	(8,530)	\$	108,305

Accounts receivable in the business-type activities include amounts for unbilled services as of December 31, 2007 of \$73,919.

### Note 6 - DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

Amounts due from other governmental units at December 31, 2007 consisted of the following:

				School					
	State			Board		Other		Total	
Governmental Activities:									
General Fund	\$	5,374			\$	100,218	\$	105,592	
Sales Tax Fund		-	\$	54,300		-		54,300	
Street Fund		5,014		~		10,499		15,513	
Seawall Project Fund		88,878	*******			-		88,878	
Total governmental	<b>d</b>	20.044		5.1.000	•		•	064.000	
activities	\$	99,266	\$	54,300		110,717	\$	264,283	

### **Note 7 - RESTRICTED ASSETS**

Restricted assets at December 31, 2007 in the enterprise funds consist of \$48,285 of customer deposits.

**Note 8 - CHANGE IN CAPITAL ASSETS** 

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2007 was as follows:

	Balance 1/1/2007	Additions	Deletions	Balance 12/31/2006
Governmental Activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 91,100			\$ 91,100
Construction in progress	567,880	\$ 76,716		644,596
Condition in program	207,000			
Total capital assets not being depreciated	658,980	76,716		735,696
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	349,693	_		349,693
Christmas fixtures	16,904	•		16,904
Protection levee	164,195	-		164,195
Swimming pool	341,693	2,068		343,761
Autos and trucks	131,157	_,,,,,,	\$ (20,100)	111,057
Sidewalks, streets and drainage	2,936,616	90,071	- (20,.00)	3,026,687
Oakridge Park	614,761	,0,071	_	614,761
Office furniture and fixtures	22,713	1,241	_	23,954
Equipment:	22,713	1,241		20,004
Street department	112,007	5,835	_	117,842
Sanitation department	11,400	5,055	_	11,400
Police department	72,279	11,400	_	83,679
DMV Building	221,641	11,400	_	221,641
DM v Buiking	221,041			221,041
Total capital assets being depreciated	4,995,059	110,615	(20,100)	5,085,574
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(116,773)	(8,573)	-	(125,346)
Christmas fixtures	(16,904)		<u>.</u>	(16,904)
Protection levee	(164,195)	-	-	(164,195)
Swimming pool	(164,989)	(9,558)	_	(174,547)
Autos and trucks	(85,054)	(15,988)	20,100	(80,942)
Sidewalks, streets and drainage	(1,685,570)	(82,463)	,	(1,768,033)
Oakridge Park	(463,015)	(8,268)	_	(471,283)
Office furniture and fixtures	(14,566)	(3,744)	_	(18,310)
Equipment:	(11,500)	(5,711)		(,0,0,0)
Street department	(72,627)	(5,322)	_	(77,949)
Sanitation department	(8,510)	(1,625)	_	(10,135)
Police department	(60,439)	(4,673)	_	(65,112)
DMV Building	(44,328)	(5,541)		(49,869)
Total accumulated depreciation	(2,896,970)	(145,755)	20,100	(3,022,625)
			20,100	
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	2,098,089	(35,140)	-	2,062,949
Total governmental activities capital				
assets, net	<b>\$</b> 2,757,069	\$ 41,576	\$ -	\$ 2,798,645

Note 8 - CHANGE IN CAPITAL ASSETS (Continued)

	Balance 1/1/2007 Additions		Additions	Adjustmets and Deletions			Balance 12/31/2007		
Business-Type Activities:									
Capital assets not being depreciated:									
Land	\$	2,500					\$	2,500	
Capital assets being depreciated:									
Sewer system phase I		756,659	\$	17,746	\$	-		774,405	
Sewer system phase II		1,049,215		17,746		-		1,066,961	
Gas distribution system		459,031		15,910		-		474,941	
Auto's and trucks		47,815		3,248		~		51,063	
Furniture and fixtures		90,118		•		_		90,118	
Equipment and machinery		26,305		-				26,305	
Total capital assets being depreciated		2,429,143	,	54,650		_	_	2,483,793	
Less accumulated depreciation for:									
Sewer system phase I		(234,684)		(16,325)		~		(251,009)	
Sewer system phase II		(177,473)		(21,623)		-		(199,096)	
Gas distribution system		(348,118)		(4,797)		-		(352,915)	
Auto's and trucks		(26,546)		(6,860)		-		(33,406)	
Furniture and fixtures		(82,371)		(3,615)		-		(85,986)	
Equipment and machinery		(24,806)		(581)		-	_	(25,387)	
Total accumulated depreciation		(893,998)		(53,801)		-		(947,799)	
Total capital assets being depreciated, net		1,535,145		849				1,535,994	
Total business-type activities capital assets, net	\$	1,537,645	<u>\$</u>	849	\$	-	\$	1,538,494	

Depreciation expense was charged to functions of the Town as follows:

### Note 8 - CHANGE IN CAPITAL ASSETS (Continued)

Governmental Activities:		
General government	\$	18,957
Public safety		14,919
Culture and recreation		18,839
Streets and highways		40,334
Drainage and levee		51,080
Sanitation		1,626
Total depreciation expense -		
governmental activities	\$	145,755
Business-Type Activities:		
Gas distribution	\$	14,320
Sewerage		39,481
Total depreciation expense -		
business-type activities	<u>\$</u>	53,801

### Note 9 - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and other current liabilities at December 31, 2007 consisted of the following:

	 /endors	aries and Benefits	Other	Pa	Total accounts yable and Accrued penditures	fo Cor	ciability or Work inpleted on contracts	Pa Oth	Total accounts yable and ter Current iabilities
Governmental	 <del>-</del>								···
Activities: General Drainage and levee	\$ 31,049	\$ 3,141	\$ 17,592	\$	51,782	\$	14,458	\$	51,782 14,458
Total governmental activities	\$ 31,049	\$ 3,141	\$ 17,592	\$	51,782	\$	14,458	\$	66,240
Business-type Activities: Gas Distribution Sewerage	\$ 43,016 2,278			\$	43,016 2,278			\$	43,016 2,278

### Note 10 - DUE TO AND FROM OTHER FUNDS

Due to and from other funds are listed by fund for the year ended December 31, 2007:

	Interfund Receivables		 nterfund Payables
General Fund:			
Gas Distribution System Fund			\$ 2,768
Sale Tax Fund			86,979
Non-major Funds	\$	50	 
Total		50	 89,747
Sales Tax Fund:			
Seawall Project Fund		97,817	
General Fund		86,979	
		184,796	
Seawall Project Fund:			
Sales Tax Fund			 97,817
Gas Distribution System Fund:			
General Fund		2,768	
Non-major Fund:			
General Fund			 50
Grand Totals	\$	187,614	\$ 187,614

The balances above resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system and (3) payments between funds are made.

### Note 11 - NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

The Town has entered into a lease agreement for financing the acquisition of equipment. The lease agreement qualifies as a capital lease for accounting purposes and, therefore, has been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the date of their inception. The asset acquired through the capital lease is recorded in the governmental activities at a cost of \$8,659, and \$1,984 accumulated depreciation as of December 31, 2007. During the year ended December 31, 2007, the Town made lease payments, including the pay out of another capital lease, of \$7,191 including \$448 of interest.

The following is a summary of the non-current liabilities for the year ended December 31, 2007:

Payable at January 1, 2007	\$ 10,471
Obligations retired	(6,743)
Payable at December 31, 2007	\$ 3,728
Due with in one year	\$ 3,197

Capital leases are liquidated by the General Fund.

The annual requirements to amortize the capital lease including principal and interest, at December 31, 2007, are as follows:

Maturity	P	rincipal	Interest		
2008	\$	3,197	\$	175	
2009		531		5	
Totals	\$	3,728	\$	180	

### Note 12 - MAJOR SUPPLIERS - ENTERPRISE FUNDS

During the year ended December 31, 2007 the Town made all of its purchases of natural gas from one supplier totaling \$251,967.

### Note 13- RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING TRANSFERS

A reconciliation of operating transfers for the year ended December 31, 2007 is as follows:

	TransfersIn	Transfers Out
General Fund:		
Sales Tax Fund	\$ 250,000	
Levee Maintenance Fund	35,000	
Drainage Maintenance Tax Fund	35,000	
Street Fund	60,000	
Total	380,000	
Sales Tax Fund:		
General Fund		\$ 250,000
Seawall Project Fund		4,628
Total		254,628
Levee Maintenance Fund:		
General Fund		35,000
Drainage Maintenance Tax Fund:		
General Fund		35,000
Street Fund:		
General Fund		60,000
Seawall Project Fund:		
Sales Tax Fund	4,628	
Grand Totals	\$ 384,628	\$ 384,628

Transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires collecting them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them, and (2) use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorization.

### **Note 14 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to workers compensation; torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; natural disasters; and group health benefits for which the Town carries commercial insurance. The Town is covered under a general liability contract for claims, including claims related to the gas distribution system, up to \$500,000. Any claims in excess of \$500,000 are to be paid by the Town. A suit is pending against the Town, its insurers and others. The Town has not provided for estimated losses from the aforementioned pending suit in its financial statements because the Town believes the ultimate settlement costs will not materially exceed the amounts provided by commercial insurance

### Note 15 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Town received funding under grants from various Federal and state governmental agencies. The agency grants specify the purpose for which the grant monies are to be used; the grants are subject to audit by the granting agency or its representative.

### Note 16 - POSTRETIREMENT HOSPITALIZATION AND LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

The Town provides for the payment of hospitalization and life insurance premiums for retired employees as approved by the Town Council. The Town funds the entire premium for all employees retiring with at least ten years service and retiring from the formal retirement systems until they reach the age of 65. The cost of providing these benefits is recognized as an expense as premiums are paid. For the year ended December 31, 2007 those costs amounted to \$16,044.

Future liabilities under the Town's plan for potentially eligible employees are dependent upon the age and length of service of those employees. The average employee age and service years are not available. At December 31, 2007, the average hospitalization and life insurance cost per retired employee was approximately \$446 per month and the average number of retired employees was 3.

### Note 17 - PENSION PLANS

Employees of the Town, with the exception of the policemen, are members of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana. Full-time policemen, not participating in the Federal Social Security System, are members of the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (MPERS).

### a.) Municipal Employees' Retirement System

Plan Description - The Town contributes to Plan A of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (the System), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit public employee retirement system, which is controlled and administered by a separate Board of Trustees. The System provides retirement, deferred and disability benefits, survivor's benefits and cost of living adjustments to plan members and beneficiaries. Act 356 of the 1954 Louisiana Legislative Session established the plan. Act 569 of the 1968 Louisiana Legislative Session provided an optional method for municipalities to cancel Social Security and come under supplementary benefits in the System, effective on and after June 30, 1970. Effective October 1, 1978, under Act 788, the "regular plan" and the "supplemental plan" were replaced, and are now know as Plan "A" and Plan "B". Plan A combines the original plan and the supplemental plan for those municipalities participating in both plans, while Plan B participates in only the original plan. The System is governed by Louisiana Revised Statutes 11:1731 through 11:1884, specifically, and other general laws of the State of Louisiana. The System issued a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana, 7937 Office Park Blvd., Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 9.25% of their annual covered earnings, and the Town is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The Town's contribution rate during the period of January 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007 was 16%. Effective July 1, 2007, the Town's contribution rate was decreased to 13.50%. In addition, the System also receives a percentage of tax revenues from various taxing bodies. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Town are established and may be amended by state statute. The Town's contributions to the System for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 were \$50,248, \$54,468, and \$50,695, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

### Note 17 - PENSION PLANS (Continued)

### b.) Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System

Plan Description - The Town contributes to the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (the System), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit public employee retirement system, which is controlled and administered by a separate Board of Trustees. The System provides retirement, deferred and disability benefits, survivor's benefits and cost of living adjustments to plan members and beneficiaries. Act 189 of the 1973 Louisiana Legislative Session established the plan. The System is governed by Louisiana Revised Statutes 11:2211 through 11:2234, specifically, and other general laws of the State of Louisiana. The System issued a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana, 7722 Office Park Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 7.50% of their annual covered earnings excluding overtime but including state supplemental pay, and the Town is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The Town's contribution rate during the period of January 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007 was 15.50%. Effective July 1, 2007, the Town's contribution rate was decreased to 13.75%. In addition, the System also receives a percentage of insurance premiums. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Town are established and may be amended by state statute. The Town's contributions to the System for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 were \$5,512, \$4,255, and \$10,461, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

### Note 18 - ON-BEHALF PAYMENTS FOR SUPPLEMENTAL PAY

The Town recognizes as revenues and expenditures salary supplements, which includes the police, that the State of Louisiana has paid directly to the Town's employees. As of December 31, 2007, the total on-behalf payments made amounted to \$13,686.

### OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

# COMPENSATION PAID TO MEMEBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

## Town of Golden Meadow

For the Year Ended December 31, 2007

2007

Per Diem*	\$ 6,612 6,336 6,612 6,060 6,060	\$ 32,232
Compensation	\$ 34,452	\$ 34,452
Office	Mayor Councilman Councilman Councilman Councilman	
Name	Joey Bouziga David Adams Mike Billiot Frank Boura Jody Cheramie Gwendolyn Theriot	Totals

Per diem paid at the rate of \$551 for the regular monthly meeting. There are no additional per diem fees paid for attendance at special meetings of the Town.

### STATISTICAL INFORMATION SECTION

## GENERAL GOVERNMENTAL EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION (1)

### Town of Golden Meadow

Last Ten Years

(Unaudited)

Total	733,044	849,806	829,064	824,647	897,047	934,207	1,011,613	1,078,232	1,044,648	1,044,254
	63									
Debt Service	\$ 38,786	39,909	40,815	36,656	47,906	10,819	18,911	15,436	14,610	7,191
Culture and Recreation	\$ 62,492	71,047	62,541	62,006	64,975	108,246	104,426	92,348	120,102	103,076
Drainage and Levee	\$ 81,746	127,593	132,356	98,557	134,170	132,444	133,119	156,664	172,944	178,301
Civil Defense	\$ 1,022	388	226	02	858	1	ı	,		1
Sanitation	\$ 15,808	20,920	22,969	15,201	21,286	15,799	14,858	9,459	13,401	15,703
Streets and Highways	\$ 150,341	190,091	153,075	164,252	126,560	173,251	172,652	200,906	185,662	186,871
Public Safety Police	\$ 262,400	286,942	272,104	292,189	287,815	301,999	348,162	325,082	309,092	303,512
General	\$ 120,449	112,916	144,978	155,716	213,477	191,649	219,485	278,337	228,837	249,600
Year	8661	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007

Note: (1) Includes General, Special Revenue, and Debt Service Funds (amounts do not include the Capital Outlay expenditures of the funds).

## GENERAL GOVERNMENTAL REVENUE BY SOURCE (1)

### Town of Golden Meadow

Last Ten Years

(Unaudited)

Total	\$ 1,200,697	1,092,547	1,075,664	1,157,830	1,123,590	1,234,745	1,372,332	1,317,229	1,922,880	1,698,998
Miscellanous Revenues	\$ 33,074	29,299	38,706	19,328	40,289	58,356	201,725	73,156	46,689	52,248
Investment Income	\$ 53,485	47,034	47,141	36,673	20,843	12,336	13,410	36,015	56,847	61,657
Charges for Services	\$ 871	950	850	25,438	31,926	53,351	52,218	53,673	59,523	57,280
License, Permits and Franchises	\$ 128,151	153,547	167,301	156,592	162,397	175,096	170,007	172,546	168,195	193,255
Intergovern- mental Revenues	\$ 310,361	277,119	101,285	245,275	196,250	281,022	268,117	235,380	764,909	260,226
Fines and Forfeitures	\$ 298,446	248,428	295,791	272,498	259,663	211,204	224,777	317,085	276,432	362,291
Taxes	\$ 376,309	336,170	424,590	402,026	412,222	443,380	442,078	429,374	550,285	712,041
Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2002	2006	2007

Note:

(1) Includes General, Special Revenue, and Debt Service Funds.

## PROPERTY TAX LEVIES AND COLLECTIONS

### Town of Golden Meadow

Last Ten Years

Percent of Delinquent Taxes to Tax Levy	2.5%	4.1%	5.7%	7.5%	9.1%	1.1%	%6.6	%8.0 	2.3%	6.4%
Perc Delir Tax Tax		. ~			_	<b></b>		<b>-</b>		_
Outstanding Delinquent Taxes	3.768	5.984	11,321	11,160	13,463	16,817	16,135	15,956	3,436	10,642
Outs: Deli T	49	,								
Percent of Total Tax Collections to Tax Levy	99.3%	%6'56	%8.96	100.1%	98.4%	126.7%	92.9%	108.5%	116.4%	79.6%
Total Tax Collections	\$ 150,894	140,482	162,603	148,704	144,839	192,509	151,271	159,914	174,429	131,888
Delinquent Fax Collections	1,966	882	2,897	5,876	2,883	1,671	1,634	5,465	3,478	926
P P	<b>9</b> 9									
Percent of Levy Collected	%6'.26	95.3%	95.1%	96.2%	96.5%	125.6%	91.9%	104.8%	114.1%	79.0%
Current Collections	\$ 148,928	139,600	159,706	142,828	141,956	190,838	149,637	154,449	170,951	130,962
Total Tax Levy	\$ 151,978	146,466	167,940	148,543	147,142	151,942	162,893	147,416	149,846	165,719
Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2002	2006	2007

### PRINCIPAL TAXPAYERS

### Town of Golden Meadow

December 31, 2007

Taxpayer	Type of Business		2007 Assessed Valuation	Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation
Community Bank of Lafourche	Bank	\$	764,420	9.76%
Lafourche Telephone Co.	Telephone		726,960	9.28%
State Bank & Trust Co.	Bank		712,800	9.10%
Capital One Bank	Bank		301,760	3.85%
Azimuth Energy, LLC	Oil & Gas		133,110	1.70%
Plains Pipeline	Oil & Gas		133,110	1.70%
Golden Meadow Hardware	Hardware		123,740	1.58%
Frank's Supermarket	Supermarket		87,540	1.12%
Apache Company	Dredging		84,400	1.08%
Entergy	Electric Utility	<del></del>	76,260	0.96%
Totals		\$	3,144,100	40.13%

## RATIO OF NET GENERAL BONDED DEBT TO ASSESSED VALUE AND NET BONDED DEBT PER CAPITA

### Town of Golden Meadow

Last Ten Years

(Unaudited)

Net Bonded Debt Per Capita	35.88	13.28	1	Ī	1	ı	ı	ı	·	
Percent of Net Bonded Debt to Assessed Value	1.18%	0.45%	ı	•	•	•	•	ı	•	
Net Bonded Debt	72,900	26,991	1	•	•	ı	ı	ı	,	
Debt Service Monies Available	67,100	81,009	102,394	68,487	1	1	1	1	·	
Gross Bonded Debt (1)	140,000	108,000	73,000	40,000	•	•	,	1	1	
Assessed	6,165,456	5,941,826	6,992,640	7,004,060	6,956,970	7,183,920	7,701,800	6,970,020	7,084,910	20.6225
Population	2,032	2,032	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,271	2,193	1
Year	8661	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 2007	

Note:

(1) Includes all long-term general obligation debt.

### RATIO OF ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE EXPENDITURES FOR GENERAL BONDED DEBT TO TOTAL GENERAL EXPENDITURES

### Town of Golden Meadow

Last Ten Years

(Unaudited)

					Ratio of
					Debt Service
			Total	Total	to Total
			Debt	General	General
Year	Principal	Interest	Service	Expenditures (1)	Expenditures
1998	29,000	9,786	38,786	733,044	5.3%
1999	32,000	7,909	39,909	849,806	4.7%
2000	35,000	5,815	40,815	829,064	4.9%
2001	33,000	3,656	36,656	824,647	4.4%
2002	40,000	1,300	41,300	897,047	4.6%
2003	-	-	-	934,207	0.0%
2004	-	-	-	1,011,613	0.0%
2005	-	-	_	1,078,232	0.0%
2006	-	-	-	1,044,648	0.0%
2007	-	-	-	1,044,254	0.0%

### Note:

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes General, Special Revenue, and Debt Service Funds (amounts do not include the capital expenditures of the funds).

### **MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS**

### Town of Golden Meadow

December 31, 2007

Date of incorporation Form of government Area Miles of street Number of street lights	July 17, 1950 Mayor - Council 4 square miles 11.5 419
Fire protection: (volunteer firemen) Number of stations	2
Number of firemen	25 25
Police protection:	
Number of stations	1
Number of policemen and officers	2
Municipal gas department:	
Number of consumers - December 31, 2007	584
Average annual consumption per customer	40.67 MCF
Miles of gas mains	29
Municipal sewer department	
Number of consumers - December 31, 2007	295
Recreation and culture:	
Number of parks	1 with 40 acres
Number of libraries	1
Employees:	
Excluding policemen and summer pool workers	9

### **INSURANCE IN FORCE**

### Town of Golden Meadow

December 31, 2007

	CHAUG	nea)	
Name of Insurer	Policy Period From To	Details of Coverage	Amount
Fidelity National Property and Casualy Insurance Company	3/1/2007 - 3/1/2008	Flood Insurance - Town Hall Town Hall - Contents Deductible	\$ 55,000 57,800 500
Continental Insurance Company	1/8/2007 - 1/8/2008	Public Employee Dishonesty Coverage Deductible	10,000 1,000
Travelers Casualty & Surety	1/1/2005 - 1/1/2009	Public Official's Bond - Chief of Police / Tax Collector	5,000
Louisiana Municipal Risk Management Agency	1/1/2007 - 1/1/2008	Workmen's Compensation	LA Statutes
Essex Insurance Company	3/6/2007 - 3/6/2008	Automobile Collision/Comprehension - Various Autos Total (actual CV for cost of repair, whichever is less) Deductible - specified perils Deductible - collision	144,650 250 250
Lloyds, London	2/2/2007 - 2/2/2008	Commercial Inland Marine Coverage Total Physical damage Deductible	155,128 250
Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Company	11/20/2007 - 11/20/2008	DMV Building 90% Replacement Cost Deductible	155,128 1,000
		DMV Building - Contents 80% Replacement Cost Deductible Wind and Hail - 10% deductible	52,000 1,000
American Bankers Insurance Company	12/19/2007 - 12/19/2008	Flood Insurace DMV Building Contents Deductible	150,000 50,000 500
Fidelity National Property and Casualty Insurance Company	4/16/2007 - 4/16/2008	Flood Insurance Meter Station - Contents Deductible	8,300 500
Fidelity National Property and Casualty Insurance Company	5/16/2007 - 5/16/2008	Flood Insurance Town Hall - Contents Deductible	37,200 500

### **INSURANCE IN FORCE**

### Town of Golden Meadow

December 31, 2007

N	Policy Period		Day the of Courses	<b>.</b>
Name of Insurer	From	То	Details of Coverage	Amount
Travelers Property Casualty	1/7/2007 -	1/7/2008	Water Pumping Station - Durselle Street Limit per accident Spoilage Deductible	975,000 25,000 2,500
Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Company	8/25/2007 -	8/25/2008	Fire, Extended Coverage, V. & M. M. on Buildings  Town Hall  Town Hall Contents  Town Hall Addition and  Town Hall Jail  Swimming Pool Bathhouse  Town Maintenance Building  Pumping Station  Park - Dressing/Restrooms  Senior Citizens Building  Senior Citizens Ceramic Shop  Deductible  80% Co-Insurance	90,000 58,000 35,000 75,000 45,000 15,000 40,000 90,000 15,000 500
Louisiana Municipal Risk Management Agency Liability Pool	5/1/2007 -	5/1/2008	Comprehensive Liability Coverage under the LMA Plan:  1 Comprehensive General Liability Medical Payments: Deductible per person Deductible per accident Deductible per occurance  2 Automobile Liability Deductible  3 Law Enforcement Officers' Comprehensive Liability Deductible  4 Public Offical's Errors and Omissions Liability Deductible	500,000 1,000 10,000 50,000 500,000 1,000 500,000 1,000
Scottsdale Insurance Company	5/5/2007 -	5/5/2008	Electronic Data Processing Equipment Deductible	11,630 500



### REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana (the Town) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 20, 2008. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the Standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Town's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses, as 07-01 to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 07-2.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Mayor and Town Council, management, the Legislative Auditor for the State of Louisiana and others within the entity and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Bourgeon Bennett, L.L.C.
Certified Public Accountants.

Houma, Louisiana, March 20, 2008.

### **SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

### Sec

Section	I Summary of Auditor's Results
a) Fir	nancial Statements
Ту	pe of auditor's report issued: unqualified
	Internal control over financial reporting:
	<ul> <li>Material weakness identified? yesX_ no</li> <li>Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? xes none reported</li> </ul>
No	ncompliance material to financial statements noted? X yes no
b) Fe	deral Awards
ene	wn of Golden Meadow did not expend federal awards exceeding \$500,000 during the year ded December 31, 2007 and therefore is exempt from the audit requirements under the Single dit Act and OMB A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations.
Section	II Financial Statement Findings
Inter	nal Control Over Financial Reporting
07-1	Criteria – Effective internal controls requires that an entity have staffing with the technical expertise, knowledge and available time to prepare financial statements and all disclosures in accordance generally accepted accounting principles as part of its control process.
	Condition – Management lacks the qualifications necessary to prepare financial statements and all disclosures in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Possessing suitable skills, knowledge and experience to oversee services an auditor provides in assisting with financial statements presentation requires a lower level of technical knowledge that the

Effect - The Town has a recognized deficiency in its internal control.

expertise required to prepare the statements and all disclosures.

### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

(Continued)

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

### Section II Financial Statement Findings (Continued)

### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Continued)**

07-1 (Continued)

Cause - The Town has not determined a need for staff possessing the required technical expertise.

Recommendation – We recommend the Town consider the need for having personnel with the technical expertise and knowledge to prepare financial statements and all disclosures in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Views of Responsible Officials of the Auditee - When there is a disagreement with the Finding to the External Protocol - None

### Compliance and Other Matters

07-2 Criteria – Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1221-1224 requires that the deposits of all political subdivisions be fully collateralized at all times. Acceptable collateralization includes the \$100,000 FDIC insurance and the market values of securities purchased and pledged to the political subdivision are allowed as security for deposits. Obligations furnished as security must be held by the political subdivision or with an unaffiliated bank or trust company for the account of the political subdivision.

Condition – During the audit it was noted that the Town was under collateralized by \$100,483 at year end.

Questioned Costs - None

Context - Not Applicable

Effect - None compliance with State pledged securities laws.

Cause – The Town has not obtained sufficient collateralization by the end of the year.

**Recommendation** – We recommend that the Town comply with the State deposit collateralization law by having the financial institution pledge adequate securities to cover the Town's deposit account.

### Section III Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

Not applicable.

### REPORTS BY MANAGEMENT

### SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

### Section I Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Basic Financial Statements

### Internal Control

No material weaknesses were noted during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2006. No reportable conditions were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2006.

### Compliance

No compliance findings material to the Town's financial statements were noted during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2006.

### Section II Financial Statement Findings

Recommendation – Immediately secure all construction payrolls during construction of the Seawall Project and determine if prevailing wages were paid and if not take actions to rectify the matter. Implement controls that will ensure that the Town officials will become familiar with all federal regulations prior to accepting federal awards and to follow through on requirements as needed.

Management's Response – The Town received and reviewed the contractor's payroll information from the project engineers and has confirmed prevailing wages were paid. Resolved.

### Section III Management Letter

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit for the year ended December 31, 2006.

### MANAGEMENT'S CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

### Town of Golden Meadow, Louisiana

For the year ended December 31, 2007

### Section I Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Basic Financial Statements

### Internal Control

**07-1** Recommendation – The Town should consider the need for having personnel with technical expertise and knowledge to prepare financial statements and disclosure in accordance with generally accepted accounting procedures.

Management's Response – Management does not consider the benefit of this recommended improvement to outweigh the cost of implementation

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

**07-2** Recommendation – We recommend that the Town comply with the state deposit collateralization law by having the financial institution pledge adequate securities to cover the Town deposit accounts.

Management's Response – The Town has made sure that the securities are adequately pledged at all times.

### Section II Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards

Town of Golden Meadow did not expend federal awards exceeding \$500,000 during the year ended December 31, 2007 and therefore is exempt from the audit requirements under the Single Audit Act and OMB A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations.

### Section III Management Letter

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit for the year ended December 30, 2007.